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For my senior design project, I am working on "Furrfect," a web application specifically tailored for pet owners. This specialized social media blog app is designed to provide a platform where users can share daily life experiences with their pets while offering resources on pet healthcare, adoption, maintenance tips, and veterinary services. From my academic perspective, this project is a culmination of the skills and knowledge I’ve gained throughout my college years, combining my passion for pets with the technical expertise I’ve acquired as a Computer Science major.

Throughout my college journey at the University of Cincinnati, the coursework has provided a solid foundation in both the technical and theoretical aspects of computer science, which will be invaluable in developing "Furrfect." Courses such as ‘CS 2023 - Python Programming’ and ‘IT 1009C - Python for IT’ have sharpened my back-end development skills, allowing me to structure data-driven features effectively, such as user profiles and pet-related resources. My experience in ‘CS 4092 - Database Design and Development’ has equipped me to create a scalable and efficient database for storing user and pet data, a crucial component for our app. Additionally, courses like ‘AMEC 2050C - Web Design 1’ and ‘CS 5167 - User Interface 1,’ which I am currently enrolled in, will help me design a user-friendly and visually appealing interface, ensuring that Furrfect is not only functional but also engaging for pet owners.

Beyond my coursework, my co-op experiences have played a significant role in shaping my ability to contribute to this project. During my internships at Intel as a Software Engineer Intern and PDK Technical Intern, I gained practical experience in developing significant features, writing Python automation scripts, and building real-time visibility dashboards. These technical skills, paired with my ability to collaborate within teams and work under project deadlines, have prepared me for the multifaceted challenges of developing Furrfect. Working in diverse technical environments has also honed my problem-solving and communication skills, which are essential in ensuring that the technical and non-technical aspects of the app align seamlessly.

My motivation for this project stems from my love for animals and a deep desire to create a tool that can benefit the pet-loving community. The idea of combining technology with pet care excites me, and I believe Furrfect has the potential to make a real impact. My preliminary approach will involve a combination of user research and technical prototyping to ensure that the app meets the needs of pet owners while offering reliable resources on pet healthcare and adoption. By focusing on intuitive design and efficient back-end architecture, I aim to create a seamless user experience that fosters a strong and supportive community.

In terms of expected outcomes, I anticipate that Furrfect will not only be a functional social media platform but also an informative resource hub for pet owners. I plan to self-evaluate my contributions by setting clear milestones, testing the app's performance regularly, and gathering feedback from potential users. I will know I have done a good job when Furrfect operates smoothly, engages its users, and provides valuable information that enhances the well-being of their pets. By adhering to these goals and maintaining high standards for user experience, I believe this project will be a success.